



# Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, lymphedema is a chronic disease that results in the buildup of lymph fluid in the fatty tissues just under the skin, causing long-term swelling in one or more parts of the body; and

**WHEREAS**, primary lymphedema is hereditary and secondary lymphedema is acquired because of a surgical procedure, infection, radiation or physical trauma; and

**WHEREAS**, lymphedema is most commonly caused by the removal of or damage to lymph nodes as a part of cancer treatment; and

**WHEREAS**, all cancer treatment survivors, including those of ovarian, breast, prostate and melanoma cancer, are susceptible to lymphedema; and

**WHEREAS**, lymphedema affects up to 10 million Americans, and according to the World Health Organization, a total of over 250 million in the world are affected; and

**WHEREAS**, symptoms include swelling of arms, legs, fingers or toes, restricted range of motion, recurring infections, hardening and thickening of the skin, new aching or discomfort in the limbs, or tightness of clothes or accessories on one limb even though there was no weight gain; and

**WHEREAS**, the elderly and those with excess weight or rheumatoid or psoriatic arthritis are at a higher risk of acquiring lymphedema; and

**WHEREAS**, there is no cure but lymphedema can be managed with early diagnosis and diligent care of the affected limb; and

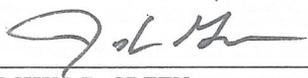
**WHEREAS**, the Hawai'i Chapter of the Lymphatic Education and Research Network seeks to raise awareness and to accelerate prevention, treatment and cure of lymphatic diseases;

**THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, JOSHUA B. GREEN, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim March 6, 2019 as**

## **“WORLD LYMPHEDEMA DAY”**

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in recognizing the valuable work of the Lymphatic Education and Research Network for its efforts in education, research and advocacy of lymphedema in hopes that new treatments or a cure will be discovered.

Done at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this fourth day of February 2019.

  
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**JOSHUA B. GREEN**  
Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai'i

  
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**DAVID Y. IGE**  
Governor, State of Hawai'i